

From the New Orleans Bee.

Buchanan Ahead.

The progress made of late in the affections of the Democracy by the Hon. James Buchanan annoys alike the partisans of Douglas and the advocates of Pierce. Attempts are made to affect the orthodoxy of Mr. Buchanan on Southern questions, and these attempts appear simultaneously in journals committed to Pierce and friendly to Douglas. The *Star* at Washington, a violent Pierce paper, hints that there are material qualifications in Buchanan's recent letter to Mr. Sill, which have been withheld from publication, while a correspondent of the New Orleans *Delta* endeavors to prove by the record that Old Buck assumed the Van Buren doctrine on the questions of the power of Congress to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia—not denying the power, but deprecating its exercise—a doctrine which greatly injured Mr. Van Buren in 1840, and contributed to his utter overthrow in the South.

We do not intend—not, indeed, are we at this time prepared—to discuss the precise tenets of Mr. Buchanan in reference to Southern principles. Our object is simply to refer to the efforts made by Southern presses to throw doubt on his position, as an evidence that his strength begins to excite alarm. The observation of political events daily transpiring leads to a growing belief that Mr. Buchanan will be the nominee of the National Convention. Pierce, we are now fully satisfied, is out of the question. The Democratic party are too wise to encumber themselves with a millstone. They know that Pierce is destitute of popularity, is sustained by a few save brawling and noisy office-holders, and is regarded as weak, vacillating and unworthy. They know, too, that his nomination would lose them thousands of votes. They will therefore give him a wide berth; will load him with carefully worded resolutions, and vote in the Convention for another. Touching Douglas, we think very sincerely that his chances are not improving. Iowa, a neighbor of Illinois—one of the great Confederates of Western States, which was expected enthusiastically to sustain Douglas, has, we perceive, appointed a Buchanan delegation. California has proclaimed for Buchanan; so has Pennsylvania, and it is even said that Virginia will endorse him. Where are the Douglas votes to come from at this rate. Thus far, he has not secured the delegation of a single State, save, perchance, that of Louisiana; nor are we quite sure even of this. Certainly Douglas will have to gain tremendously within the next month or so, if he anticipates even a show of strength. Illinois alone cannot furnish capital enough.

Well, if Mr. Buchanan is chosen, and should by any possibility be elected, the Conservative party throughout the country, whether styling themselves Whigs, Democrats, or Know-Nothings, will have small reason to complain. The very qualities which render Buchanan distasteful to that interesting, though not particularly formidable party, known as the "Young South," commend him to all others. He has retired sufficient of the heaven of the Southern States to keep him in the safe line of Conservative precedents. He never was rabid as a Democrat, though a decided party man, and his career presents no prominent act of political daring which might lead to the presumption that he would embroil the country in difficulties and disputes, or strive to annex Mexico, Ireland and the Sandwich Islands. We are very candid in acknowledging his merits, and commend him to all others. He has retired sufficient of the heaven of the Southern States to keep him in the safe line of Conservative precedents. He never was rabid as a Democrat, though a decided party man, and his career presents no prominent act of political daring which might lead to the presumption that he would embroil the country in difficulties and disputes, or strive to annex Mexico, Ireland and the Sandwich Islands. We are very candid in acknowledging his merits, and commend him to all others.

From the Belfast (Me) Journal.

Record of the Democracy of Pennsylvania.

Two important political papers have recently been submitted to the people—"The Appeal of the Democracy of Pennsylvania to their brethren in other States of the Union," and "The Record of the Democracy of Pennsylvania." The former, written by the late re-nomination of Franklin Pierce, the one published by authority of the Democratic State Committee of Pennsylvania, and the other by direction of the navy agent at Boston. The latter article having been extensively copied into the Pierce renomination subsidized press, we take pleasure in reproducing the portion of the former which relates to the special claims of the democracy of the State of Pennsylvania. We feel assured that the frank, unbiassed, and glowing sentiments of the democracy of Pennsylvania, will not suffer in comparison with the "by authority" article in the Post, any more than the record of their devotion to the democratic faith will suffer when exhibited in contrast with that of the democracy of Massachusetts. As for ourselves, we are ready to confess that we altogether prefer the sterling democracy, as we may term it, of Pennsylvania, to the two great antagonistic forces that must come into collision at Cincinnati—the democracy of numbers and the oligarchy of official station.

We bespeak for the Appeal an attentive perusal. If any democrat or sincere friend of the Union can rise from its perusal without feeling the deepest gratitude towards the ancient Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and her sterling democracy, he may doubt the genuineness of his own patriotism. Pennsylvania stands an enduring monument of fidelity to that Union she contributed so largely to form more than sixty years ago. No democratic candidate for the presidency was ever elected without her vote, and only two—Jefferson in '97 and Jackson in '24—have failed of an election with it. These two illustrations, however, but illustrate the agency and patriotism of her sterling democracy, as we may term it, of Pennsylvania, to the two great antagonistic forces that must come into collision at Cincinnati—the democracy of numbers and the oligarchy of official station.

In connection with this "Appeal" we reproduce what we said in an article in the *Journal* of the 22d of February, entitled, "Appeal of the Democracy of Pennsylvania." "If there is anything in past services,—anything in self-sacrificing devotion to democratic principles,—anything in constant and persevering love for the Union,—anything in patience under neglect,—anything in the necessity for, and the ability to render present aid, or anything in local claims which entitles a sovereign State to high consideration in the selection of a candidate for the presidency, the democracy of Pennsylvania have made out their case."

..... Singular Discovery of Old Coins.—

While some hands were digging out a cellar in Bottour County, Va., about four miles from Buchanan, they came upon a quantity of coin, consisting of some eight pieces, in an iron box about fourteen inches square. The coin was larger than a dollar, and the inscriptions in a language wholly unknown by any person in the vicinity. Upon digging down some sixteen inches lower, they came upon a quantity of iron implements of singular, and heretofore unseen shape. Several scientific gentlemen have examined into the matter, and have come to the conclusion that the coins, together with the various other curiosities, must have been placed there at an extremely early date, and before the settlement of this country.

The Riot and Massacre at Panama.

An Extra from the Aspinwall Courier, dated the 17th of April, gives the subjoined particulars of the terrible affray at Panama, of which we had a telegraphic account yesterday:

Another of those terrible fights between the natives and foreigners which have occurred on the isthmus several times since the emigration to California commenced transpired at Panama on the night of Tuesday, the 15th. The result was a most horrible massacre of innocent passengers, a great destruction of passengers' baggage, and a devastation of property both of the Railroad Company and individual residents near the Panama railroad station.

The difficulty originated in a dispute about one dime between an intoxicated passenger and a native respecting payment for a piece of watermelon. The story is, that the native, being much exasperated by the conduct of the passenger, drew a knife, on seeing which the passenger fired at the native and severely wounded him. This brought forward another native, who shot the passenger, and then the combatants increased considerably on both sides for some time; a number were shot and many badly cut with machetes.

Through the exertions of Mr. W. Johnson, the Panama Railroad Superintendent at the Panama station, the fight was then stayed for a short time. But anon it broke out with renewed violence, and an apparent organization of the natives, who were armed with knives, and then the combatants increased considerably on both sides for some time; a number were shot and many badly cut with machetes.

Some twenty foreigners were killed, and between thirty and forty badly wounded. Among the latter were several women and children; among the former, R. W. M. Parker, of San Francisco, a four years resident; M. Dubois, of Louisiana, also an old resident. Both of these were respectable and esteemed citizens, whom we have known long and well. Mr. Stokes, an officer of the Walker company that came to Panama on the Cortes, was also among the killed. Mitchell Betters, of Orleans county, Vermont, from Gold Hill, Placer county, California, was found murdered in the woods near the railroad station. He had two thousand dollars on him when murdered. So we are informed by one of his fellow-passengers.

An attempt having been made to get the passengers who were in the vicinity of the station on board the little steamers, the natives formed a guard at the beach, and stripped men, women, and children as they approached, taking the women's rings from their fingers and ears and their pins from their cuffs and bosoms.

Of the wounded who were residents of the isthmus we have the names of W. H. Hunter, shot in the wrist; bone fractured; Theo. de Salas, Secretary of the United States Consul at Panama;—Palmer, an employee of the railroad company at Panama.

Of passengers per steamer Illinois: George O. Field, of New York, shot in the hip with a musket ball—bad fracture; Jos. M. Parker, Bangor, Maine, cut with machete on the head—skull fractured and a stab in the loins; A. W. Selover, Providence, Rhode Island, shot through the lungs with a musket ball; A. Lante Swane, Strong, Maine, shot in the shoulder with a musket ball, which passed down into the kidneys.

Of passengers per steamer Cortes: Patrick J. O'Neil, San Francisco, gun-shot through the body and a stab in the head with a machete—relatives at New York; Nathan Preble, Hancock county, Ohio, cut in the face very badly with a machete; Rev. Jno. Selwood, late Rector of Trinity church, Grahamville, South Carolina, shot in the region of the stomach, and also in the head, with musket balls; likewise had a cut in the head with some sharp instrument.

At the police station there were some dozen of "Illinois" passengers, all of whom were wounded, but none of them seriously, except one, whose name we could not ascertain.

All the above were attended sedulously and as promptly as possible by Drs. Otis, of the "Illinois," Warrenton, of the "Philadelphia," Drs. Kratochvil and Le Breton, of Panama, were engaged with the wounded that were taken to them during the evening, and they were at the railroad station dressing wounds when we left Panama yesterday morning.

They made here the most successful and lucrative pillage of the night. A large number of the passengers passed this ordeal, and among them were few who had not several hundred dollars, and some as much as five, six, and seven thousand dollars. Most yielded to the demands of the robbers without much resistance, and those who did attempt to escape or resist were immediately cut down.

Although the number of dead and wounded known is not greater than we have stated, we feel confident that more were killed than have been found or of whom we have any tidings. Of fourteen dead who lay in the railroad freight house on the following morning of the 16th, we could obtain the names of only one, Lieut. Stokes.

The management of the ostensible attempt to subdue the savages after they commenced the second attack was very bad, and indeed the police did very much harm rather than any good. Among those who were active in endeavoring to quell the rioters were the United States Consul, the British Consul, Theo. de Salas, Secretary of the United States Consul, Dan Kunnels, and some others.

..... Mountains of Silver.—A letter in the New York *Sun*, purporting to give an account of a recent exploration in the Masilla Valley, says: "We have seen and examined the 'Silver Mountains of Arizona' on the life of 32 degrees. They are but a short fifteen miles south of Gray's line for the Southern Pacific Railroad, and I assure you that for miles together the richest ores—richer and more abundant by far than those of Potosi—lie heaped up, and piled hills upon hills, as if Nature had there poured out her treasure in one grand, overwhelming mass. I have seen the best mines in Mexico, but nothing can compare with the 'Silver Mountains.'"

Affairs in Nicaragua.

We insert to-day the following, detailing the condition of things in Nicaragua. The following account of the fight between Gen. Walker's army and the Costa Ricans, will be read with painful interest:

"The Costa Ricans disputed every inch; but the Americans broke through their barricades, and with great slaughter drove them from their defenses. The Costa Ricans had with them a heavy piece of ordnance, to obtain which the Americans made a desperate attack and succeeded. The Costa Ricans made two or three very courageous efforts to recover their lost arm; finding this impracticable, a body of three hundred of them were observed to fall back. This was construed by Walker's officer's to a retreat, and redoubting their efforts they were put to a total rout. Almost simultaneously with this about 250 fresh Costa Ricans were observed to approach the scene of conflict.

These were promptly met by the Americans, now flushed with the prospects of a complete victory, who, with a few exceptions, the struggle they were routed with much loss. "Walker could not have had in the field a force exceeding six or seven hundred men. He acted during the entire action with the greatest coolness—exhibiting no fears as to the result."

The following is a list of Walker's killed and wounded:

Killed.—Lieut. Morgan, Aid-de-Camp to the General; Captain Houston and Clinton Col. Marchado, commander of the native forces; Lieut. Stall.

Wounded.—Capt. Cook; Lieut. Gist; Lieut. Jones, and Sergeant Sarsfield.

LIGHT INFANTRY BATTALION.

Killed.—Capt. James Linton, Corporal Robert Kelet, Privates John Bridley, J. M. Jennings, J. H. Lane, Wm. Gould, George M. Dickerson.

Wounded.—Privates Joseph Springer, C. M. Terry, (wounded accidentally on the arm March 1st), Lieut. Jas. C. Jamerson, Private Patrick Thomas, Louis Lott, Albert Adams.

FIRST RIFLE BATTALION.

Killed.—Lieut. J. G. Privates P. Lynn, Rorror, Bradley, Stone, Sergeant Wm. McCarty, Privates Barnhouse, A. G. Gates, Captain Harrell, Privates Blackburn, Finn, Whites, Barstow, Knox, Logan, Le Clerc, Stiecker, Dart, Davidson, Barr, Sergeant Chesnut, Privates McMurphy, Duncan, Lieut. John Doyle, Sergeant Kistner, Privates McMahon, McGruar, DeLaney, Houston, Fisher, Milly, Hershman, Townsend, Milly, Winchester.

Wounded.—Sergeant A. Pittman; privates S. Kipp, George Cook, T. Lane; Lieut. Leonard, Porter Ayres; Corporal Chandler; privates Ashbro, Henry Hodgdon, Martin; Captain Ayres, Lieut. Latimer; privates Woolf, Barker, Sergeant Hutchings, privates Bulger, Carl Anderson, Lieut. Dulcan; privates J. Miller, Brimer, Jones; Sergeants Dunham, Halliday; privates Burns, Forney, Williams, Langradie, Cody, Latta, Milly, Jones, James, Shaffer, Spearman, Mayer, O'Malley, Dolan, Ferguson.

Missing.—A. Du Jan, L. Paché; privates Augustin, Jackson, Gleason, George, Gilligan, Henry, Wilson, Moony, Gray, Cody.

SECOND RIFLE BATTALION.

Killed.—Privates Eldridge, Mulholland; Sergeant Stock; privates Boglier, Winkler, Weber, East, Edwards.

Wounded.—Privates Howell, Leslie, Lockwood; Sergeant Carter, Second Lieut. Anderson, Corporal Whiting.

Missing.—Corporal Rodon; privates Strawhouse, Jeandrew, Hackley, Reeves.

MOUNTED RANGERS.

Killed.—Lieut. Philip Gillis, Acting Lieut. W. Winters, private Scott.

Wounded.—Sergeants Cornif, Evelyn; privates Lacy, Barry, MacFar, Howard.

ET Nicaraguaense of April 19th has the following:

We are gratified to announce the good condition of the wounded. Major Markham, Capt. Cook, Capt. McCordie, Capt. George Leonard, Lieut. Dolan, Lieut. Ayres, Lieut. Jamieson, Lieut. Potter, Sergeant Hodgins, Sergeant Dunegan, Sergeant Retter, Sergeant Pittman, arm amputated; Sergeant Evelyn, Sergeant Sarsfield, Corporal Henry Whiting and private Langsade, are all recovering. The medical staff is busy night and day with the wounded.

The brutality of the Costa Ricans after the fight has never been surpassed in modern warfare. The General Walker, who led the American forces, was compelled to leave a portion of his wounded (they had been declared mortally wounded by the surgeons) in one of the churches. These men were butchered by the Costa Ricans in the most cold blooded manner. The Costa Ricans added 450 killed and 250 wounded in Granada. On the 13th instant a courier reached Granada from Rivas, who stated that the enemy had thrown many of the dead bodies into wells, but were not able to dispose of one third killed in the battle, and that the atmosphere had become so infected from their decomposition that the cholera broke out on the 15th in its most violent character. Many of the Costa Ricans had died, others were suffering from the disease, and the troops were leaving the city terror stricken. Gen. Mora, it was reported, was one of the victims of cholera.

Among those who distinguished themselves in the battle were Lt. Col. Sanders, Col. Fry, Capt. Waters, Col. Kewen, Majors Webber, O'Neil, Rogers, Brewster and Markham, Capt. Breckenridge, Sutter, Anderson, Rudler and Mason; Lieuts. Morgan, Winters, Smith, Leonard, Porter, Ayres and Gay; Adjutant Gen. Thompson, and various others.

The Americans murdered by the Costa Ricans at Virgin Bay were: Thomas Lang, Pauline, Thomas Walsh, Thomas Hamilton and Thomas Lloyd, New York, and in the service of the Transit Company; Mr. Wilson, of Easton Pa., in the service of a hotel, a boy from New York, name unknown; A. Lad, from California, owner of a saw mill; and a Mr. Kean, from Pennsylvania. Michael Ratchford, of Jersey city, and Charles Mahoney, of Pennsylvania, were wounded. It was this outrage that induced Mr. W. Johnson, the American Minister to protest against it in the name of the United States. The parties massacred, he declares, had nothing to do with the filibusters, and he adds that the outrage must be atoned for, or the United States will certainly vindicate its honor.

The following is a list of persons taken prisoners at Santa Rosa, and subsequently shot on the 25th of March: James Salomon, Ireland; John Porkin, Italy; Andrew Constantine, Samos; Manuel Gorge, Corfu; Theodore Lidcker, American; Henry Dunn, Ireland; Isaac A. Rose, American; Henry Johsieder, Germany; Peter Pym, Ireland; Philip Jehmit, Germany; Peter Connan, Ireland; James Hollin, Ireland; Antoine Penu, France; David Koch, Germany; William West, Prussia; George, Navarre, Panama; and Theodore Heining, Prussia.

Philip Egan Toothy was also taken prisoner and condemned at the same time, but his punishment was changed to imprisonment because he was the correspondent of the New Orleans *Crescent*.

It was stated yesterday that an intercepted correspondence between the British government and Costa Rica, in which the former agreed to contribute two thousand stand of arms to the latter, had fallen into Walker's hands. The letter making this offer is from the foreign office of Great Britain to E. Wallerstein, the Consul General of Costa Rica. There are several other letters, one of which was from Mr. Molony, the Costa Rican Minister at Washington, informing his government of recent letters received from the government of Great Britain and France, in which great sympathy is felt for the Central American States in general. Another informs the government of Costa Rica that an English fleet will be immediately sent to the Pacific coast of Costa Rica.

The following are the intercepted letters

which fell into the hands of General Walker.

They are, it will be seen, of great importance, and may affect not a little the result of the present war between Nicaragua and Costa Rica:

From the British Foreign Office to the Consul General of Costa Rica.

FOREIGN-OFFICE, Feb. 9, 1856. I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acquaint you that, having referred to the War Department your letter of the 12th ult., requesting that a small supply of arms may be furnished to the Government of Costa Rica, his lordship has been informed by that Department, in reply, that 2,000 smooth bore muskets, (nitroons), which are not so highly finished as the line pattern muskets of 1842, can be supplied for this service at £1 3s each or if it should be preferred, 2,000 of the line pattern muskets of 1852 can be furnished for 56s. 6d each.

As soon as Lord Clarendon is informed by you of the species of arms which you decide upon, he will communicate further with the War Department, and request that the arms may be placed at your disposal.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

E. HAMMOND.

To E. WALLERSTEIN, Esq., &c., &c.

From the Consul General of Costa Rica to the Minister of Foreign Relations.

LONDON, Feb. 16, 1856.

SIR:—In reference to my note of the 16th last month, marked No. 4, in which I communicated to your Excellency that in the interview with Lord Clarendon, I had begged of him to favor our Government with a loan of 2,000 muskets, I now have great pleasure to inform your Excellency that on the 9th inst. I was advised by the Secretary of Foreign Relations that Lord Clarendon, having consulted with the Minister of War in regard to my request, I received the information that 2,000 muskets could be obtained at the price of 23s., or 2,000 at 56s. 6d. for that service, as soon as I informed his lordship which of two kinds would suit me. He will give orders that 2,000 may be placed at my disposal for the use of the Republic of Costa Rica. I have not yet replied to that communication, but I have written a private letter to said Secretary, entreating him to send me an order to examine the two kinds of arms. After seeing them I will still consider if it is convenient to take them without positive instructions from His Excellency the President; but in the meantime I am prompted by His Excellency will see the propriety with which the Government of Her Britannic Majesty has complied with my request is a very strong demonstration of her sympathy and good will towards that Republic. Nothing is said, it is true, in the Minister's letter about the time the money should be paid; it shows this is left for the Republic to determine. I enclose here a copy of the letter mentioned, and I take this opportunity to repeat to myself your Excellency's most obedient servant,

E. WALLERSTEIN.

To His Excellency Sr. Don Bernardo Castro, Minister of Relation of the Republic of Costa Rica, San Jose.

From the Consul General to the President of Costa Rica.

LONDON, Feb. 16, 1856.

Sr. Don Juan Rafael Mora, San Jose de Costa Rica.

MUCH ESTEEMED FRIEND:—The mail which brings the correspondence of Jan. 1, from Costa Rica, has not arrived, and in consequence, I have nothing to say to you in regard to mercantile business. As to public matters, you will please to refer to my communications, of to-days, to the Minister. By this you will see that this Government is willing to put 2,000 muskets at my disposal for the service of the Republic of Costa Rica. Nothing has been said in the time about the interest of the Republic. However, I have not made up my mind to take them previous to receiving instructions from you, or which of the two kinds of arms to take. In case I should take them previous to your being able to write upon the subject, I will send them in the month of March, if a vessel sails for Punta Arenas, without further orders from you. I have not yet replied to the letter of Lord Clarendon, to offer him my most sincere thanks, in my own name, and that of the Republic, for his manifestations of sympathy and friendship for Costa Rica; and though the affable manner in which Lord Clarendon spoke to me when I bid him farewell, almost induced me to believe he would not refuse the muskets, I will not deny the pleasure I felt on the receipt of Mr. Hammond's letter. I could not sleep at all that night for joy. I sent him a note on the following day, stating I would address an official note to Lord Clarendon conveying my thanks and that, in the meantime, I intended him to send me permission from the War Department to examine the two kinds of muskets, so as to ascertain which I should take for the Republic. All this very good, but I don't think the intelligence from Nicaragua, where it seems Walker is establishing himself, firmer and firmer, every day. I cannot understand how the other States did not unite themselves from the beginning to expel him from Nicaragua. I have letters from Guatemala and San Salvador regarding me to request from this Government, help and succor; but what can be done for Republics who people do not make payment to themselves. When I was telling Lord Clarendon that Costa Rica already had an army of 800 men on the frontier of Nicaragua, he was much pleased, and said, "That was a right step;" and I am persuaded that my having made that intimation is one of the reasons for giving us the muskets. The questions pending between this country and the United States are very complicated, but there will be war, for this reason, that the British Government in the great Republic observe that although the British nation do not boast or say much on the subject, they are determined to punish the Yankees very severely for the least insult to the national honor. To the eyes of the whole world—the two nations in particular—a war between the two nations would be one of the worst of evils; but to Central America the war would be very different, as Walker and his associates would soon be kicked out of Nicaragua.

I send to the Government a copy of the Times, in which is found a letter from Mr. Mary to the American Minister to Nicaragua. Though this letter appears to censure the Minister, and holds out a threat to Walker, the true sense is, that in a short time the Government of the United States will recognize Walker's Government. My God help him.

Yo, &c., &c., E. WALLERSTEIN.

..... Fanny Fern, in her "Peeps from under a Parosol," which she contributes to the New York Ledger, has taken a peep at herself. Hear her rattle:

And here, by the road, comes Fanny Fern! Flame, though since she first found it out she has never ceased to deplore it. She might be prettier, she might be younger. She might be older, she might be uglier. She might be better, she might be worse. She has been both over praised and over abused, and those who have abused her worst have imitated and copied her most.

One thing may be said in favor of Fanny: she was not, thank Providence, born in the beautiful, back-biting, sanctimonious, slanderous, clean, contemptuous, pharisaical, phidde-dee peck-measure city—of Boston.

The Tennessee papers announce the death of the venerable Major Marr, formerly a member of Congress from that State.

CONGRESS.

IN THE SENATE, on the first of May, Mr. WELLS submitted a resolution calling on the President for any correspondence, not hitherto communicated, with our Minister to Nicaragua, in regard to the recognition of the Nicaraguan government.

Mr. WELLS said he was in the constant receipt of letters inquiring whether he sustained the policy of the administration in regard to the Nicaraguan government, and he now took occasion to remark that he entirely disagreed with that policy. If the Executive thought it expedient to reject Colonel French upon personal grounds, he thought the Nicaraguan government should have been notified of that fact, and an official recognition. The usual practice of the Government had been to recognize the usual South American governments, whoever were in power there. Those which lie on the route to the Pacific especially ought to be treated with courtesy and friendship. He did not desire to see Central America annexed to this Republic, but he wanted a stable government there, and this was only to be secured by a diffusion of Anglo-Saxon blood. Therefore, he thought that emigration to that country ought to be encouraged rather than discouraged. He said that no man had been so completely misinterpreted as General Walker, who was not a freebooter, but a man of pure purposes.

He read the following letter from Gen. Walker:

GRANADA, April 15, 1856.

Hon. JOHN B. WELLS, U. S. Senate:

MY DEAR SIR:—By the last papers from New York I learn that when I was denounced by the Senate for the conduct of Nicaragua, I was pursued towards the Transit Company, who were so generous as to undertake to defend me from the aspersions of men utterly ignorant of my character. I am, therefore, under great obligations to you for writing some facts in relation to affairs here, and these will, I think, prove not unimportant to the government of the United States.

It is a well known fact, that the newspapers have professed to be the policy Nicaragua proposed to pursue towards the other States of Central America. Notwithstanding all our overtures, the neighboring Government showed themselves, if not positively, at least negatively hostile to the actual administration of Nicaragua. It was constantly asserted, not only here, but throughout Central America, that the States were stimulated to this conduct by English and French agents. But it was not until the correspondence of the Consul General of Costa Rica in London was intercepted by me a few weeks ago that positive evidence was afforded of the active sympathy the British government manifested for those who oppose the Americans in Nicaragua. The correspondence shows that England is furnishing arms to our enemies, and the same time the British War in India squadron is sent to San Juan del Norte in order that the moral weight of the English government may be thrown into the scale against our Republic.

I do not know how these facts may appear to the people of the United States, but to me they seem directly at variance with American interests. I am, therefore, at pains to state the significance of the correspondence, and to show that there are other circumstances connected with the present war in this State and in Costa Rica which may require interpretation in order to make their importance felt.

The Government of Costa Rica has never yet declared war against the Government of Nicaragua; yet it has invaded our territories and has persecuted our citizens who have sought the protection of the United States Government.

This has been done under cover of a decree issued by the President of Costa Rica declaring against the American forces in the service of Nicaragua. To declare war against the forces in the service of Nicaragua is to deny in the most positive and offensive manner the right of Americans to engage in the service of a Republic, and to keep their hands clean from being made in this offensive and unbecoming manner, but another decree has been published ordering all the American prisoners of war taken by the Costa Ricans to be shot. This is a denial to Americans engaged in a foreign service of the rights to which soldiers are entitled by the laws of war. Such decrees as those I have mentioned not only throw Costa Rica, as I conceive, beyond the pale of civilized nations, but they also reflect the honor and dignity of the United States.

They [the Costa Ricans] attempt to control the American people and keep their hands clean from the American Government has never prescribed. Costa Rica says Americans "all not emigrate to Nicaragua and take arms in our service," but she forbids them to do so. This is a denial to Americans engaged in a foreign service of the rights to which soldiers are entitled by the laws of war. Such decrees as those I have mentioned not only throw Costa Rica, as I conceive, beyond the pale of civilized nations, but they also reflect the honor and dignity of the United States.

So far we have had great moral odds against us. The Government to which we all naturally look for aid and comfort has treated us with coldness and indifference. There has been no attempt to encourage us and bid us "God speed." Nothing but our own sense of the justice of the cause we are engaged in and of its importance to the country of our birth has enabled us to struggle on as we have done. We are weary in the work we have undertaken, and our cause may be for a time lost. But if we fall, we feel it is in the path of honor. And what is life or what is success to us in comparison with the honor of having performed a duty, and of having cooperated, no matter how slightly, in the cause of improvement and progress? I begin, however, to feel that, and therefore will conclude.

I remain, with high regard to your obedient servant,

WM. WALKER.

Mr. WELLS also alluded to the recent outrage at Panama, in which thirty Americans had been killed. The best feeling existed between this government and that of New Granada, and he had no doubt the whole power of that government would be exercised to bring the offenders to justice.

Mr. SEWARD mentioned that two or three weeks ago, on his motion, a resolution had been adopted calling on the President for information on this subject, which had not yet been responded to. Probably the President had good reasons, in view of the complicated state of affairs, for delaying to answer that resolution.

Mr. WELLS was not aware of that fact, or he would not have offered this now.

Mr. SEWARD thought it better to let the subject rest for a day or two, as information concerning it was daily being received in this country, and it was important to leave the President free to exercise his discretion in this delicate matter.

Mr. DOUGLAS believed that the Clayton-Bulwer treaty was being violated every day by Great Britain, and thought something ought to be done about it. He regarded the present government of Nicaragua as a legitimate government, as much so as any other existing governments in Central America. It was the firmest and most stable government they had had since throwing off the Spanish yoke; and so far as he knew, justice was more impartially administered, and the rights of man and of property were more sacredly guarded and protected under the existing government than under any previous one. Nor was it any objection to his mind that an American by birth was in command of the Nicaraguan army. Nicaragua had as much right to become an asylum for emigrants from this country as we had to receive European emigrants. She had as much right to naturalize Walker and give him military command as we had to do the same by Gen. Shields. Further, Nicaragua had as much right to send an American by birth as Minister to this country as we have to send a man of foreign birth to represent us at the Court of Spain, Italy or Holland. He believed that we ought to enforce our neutrality laws, but not to go one hair's breadth beyond the line of strict duty.

Mr. DWIGHT thought we ought to be careful and not involve ourselves in war with any nation through the acts of intermeddling adventurers.

Mr. WELLS withdrew the resolution.

Mr. TOOMBS made a speech in opposition to the law of the Naval Board, contending that the act had not been properly executed, and that the proceedings under it were all null and void. The Senate, after further proceedings, adjourned.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, on the 1st of May, the Indian Appropriation bill, and the bill revising the act of 1853, relative to suspended entries of public lands, and the act of 1846, concerning suspension pre-emption land claims were passed.

On motion of Mr. PHILLIPS, the petition of the members of the Pittsburg bar, against the official conduct of Judge Irvin, was referred to the judiciary committee.

The Senate's amendments to the bill in addition to the Bounty Land act of March 3d, 1855, were amended by the House, and must therefore be again acted upon by the Senate.

The House went into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and took up the Wholeness and Diplomatic Appropriation bill.

Mr. MAXWELL, of Florida, delivered his views on the Southern side of the slavery question, and in the course of his remarks questioned the free soil movements in Kansas.

Mr. PERCY made a speech against the extension of slavery.

The Committee rose and the House adjourned.

IN THE SENATE, on the second of May, a message was received from the President of the United States, transmitting a report of the Secretary of State, with documents in relation to the settlement of the controversy with regard to the Losos Islands; also, a message from the same, transmitting a letter from the Post Master General and correspondence in relation to the mail transportation between our Atlantic and Pacific possessions, in which the President commends the subject to the early consideration of Congress.

Mr. BENJAMIN made an eloquent speech in support of the rights of the South; and, toward the conclusion of his remarks stated the reasons why he would never join the Democratic party. The Whig party was dead, and the American party powerless, save for mischief, in helping the "Republicans."

Messrs. SEWARD, HALL, and CLAY continued the debate; at the conclusion of which, the Senate adjourned till Monday.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, thirteen private bills were passed, and an adjournment till Monday took place.

The Committee of Conference on the disagreeing amendments to the Deficiency Appropriation bill not being able to agree, both Houses united in appointing a new committee.

Supreme Court of the United States.

THURSDAY, May 1, 1856.

No. 99. The United States, appellants, vs. Thomas O. Larkin et al. This case was argued by Mr. Attorney General Cushing and Mr. Gillet for the appellants, and by Mr. Lawrence for the appellees.

No. 100. The Union Bank of Tennessee, appellant, vs. Wm. Jolly's administrators. This case was argued by Mr. Cox for the appellant, and by Hon. F. P. Stanton for the appellees.